Sustaining a Uniform Utility Process

ARDEM Case Study

The Three R's of Utility Bill Management

Energy Bill Management has become more significant in the business world. Utility costs make up a significant part of building operation costs. These costs combined with year upon year of rises in utility costs and the desire for efficiency results in the increased need for businesses to mine data from utility bills.

Use of analytics to evaluate Demand data and Billing data are allowing businesses with multiple properties to either increase profits by use of better conservation techniques and green construction, invest in smart controls, or make decisions to invest in alternative energy.

This is what encouraged a sustainability service provider to come to us.

Review: The Challenge

Our client had a large portfolio of service locations which were being serviced by over 500 separate utilities providing electricity, gas, water, sewage, and waste. Utility bill data would come in both paper and digital formats or could also require web scraping.

With a short deadline, thousands of historical utility bill data records needed to be entered into a database. With multiple locations and utility vendors.

A few challenges were quickly identified.

Each building was serviced by a different utility company with its own unique bill format and terminology. The data collected needed to be analyzed in order to calculate consumption - not only to cut costs but to report sustainability and for carbon disclosure.

Reduce Costs: Target Inefficiencies

It all starts with utility bills. The larger your portfolio of buildings are, the more utility bills you need to manage such as: Data on Demand, Usage, KWH consumed, CCF of Gas, Gallons of Water, and Waste Generated billing data by location or by individual meter, for Electricity, Gas, Water, Waste.

Energy management comes with considerable challenges due to variances in utility bills – power doesn't come in gallons and water doesn't flow in kilowatt-hours

Not all utility bills look the same. Their data labels and formats will vary, and if the bills are available only in a scanned digital format the available image quality could introduce more variance in your data.

Therefore, for accurate data extraction, we need the right intersection of people, processes, and technology.

Greater use of automation techniques along with machine learning allows ARDEM to rapidly process a large amount of bills from different utilities. Similarly, with the use of AI tools and bots accessing bill data from utility sites, the data is quickly streamlined.
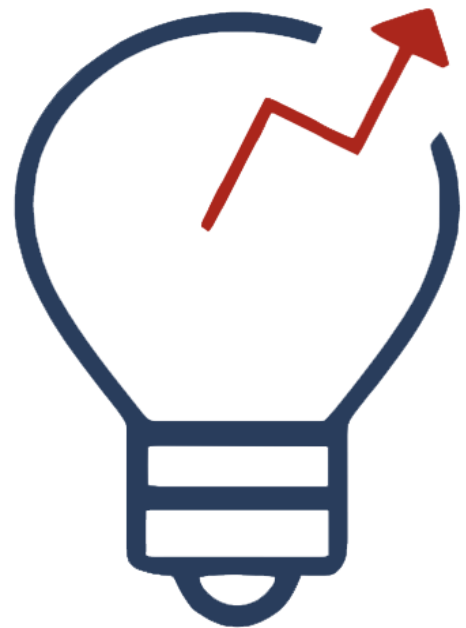
When applying our customized solution, we aggregate utility bill data, cross reference values to check for errors. Then, we swiftly and accurately enter utility data within a quick turnaround to ensure success is delivered!

Reward: Positive Sustainability Results

ARDEM is currently processing thousands of bills from US and International utility companies daily with 100% accuracy. Data is delivered to utility bill integrators, energy bill management, energy sustainability service providers and utility bill payment processors daily for import into their systems, or for the client analytic dashboards.

With a very large library covering almost all US and Canadian utilities configuring our platform for your unique data requirement is a snap, allowing input-output cycle times to be very short.

Managing utility bills for multiple properties comes with an increased value of visibility across all buildings. Not only does ARDEM reduce both the necessary cost and time for utility management, it also promotes efficient decision-making to further your eco-friendly business and ROI.

With the combination of deep industry knowledge and automation - ARDEM applies an efficient solution to the challenge of normalizing data from Utility Bills